

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-30 are pending. By this amendment claims 1, 16, 19, and 23-29 are amended and claims 10, 21, and 30 are cancelled. No new matter is introduced. Reconsideration and issuance of a notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

On page two the Office Action objects to the claims because originally filed claims 23-29 are misnumbered. These claims are renumbered as claims 24-30 (and claim 30 is cancelled). Withdrawal of the objection of the claims is respectfully requested.

On page 3 the Office Action rejects claim 19 under 35 USC § 112 second paragraph. Claim 19 is amended to overcome this rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 19 under 35 USC § 112 second paragraph is respectfully requested.

On page 4 the Office Action rejects claims 1-14, 16-21, 24, 25, and 27-29 under 35 USC § 103(a) over U.S. Patent 5,634,064, to Warnock et al. (hereafter Warnock) in view of U.S. Patent 5,239,665 to Tsuchiya (hereafter Tsuchiya). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claims 1, 16, and 24 are amended to include all the elements of allowable claim 30, and claim 30 is cancelled. Accordingly, claims 1, 16, and 24 are patentable over the combination of Warnock and Tsuchiya.

Claims 10 and 21 are cancelled, and the rejection of these claims is moot. Claims 2-9 and 11-14 depend from patentable claim 1; claims 17-20 depend from patentable claim 16; and claims 25-29 depend from patentable claim 24. For this reason and the additional features they recite, claims 2-9, 11-14, 17-20 and 25-29 are also patentable. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-14, 16-21, 24, 25 and 27-29 under 35 USC § 103(a) is respectfully requested.

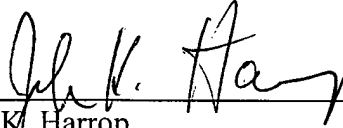
On page 7 the Office Action rejects claims 15, 22, 23, and 26 under 35 USC § 103(a) over Warnock, Tsuchiya, and further in view of "what would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made." This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As noted above, claims 1, 16, and 24 are patentable. Claim 15 depends from patentable claim 1, claims 22 and 23 depend from patentable claim 16, and claim 26 depends from patentable claim 24. For this reason any additional features they recite, claims 15, 22, 23 and 26 are also patentable. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 15, 22, 23 and 26 under 35 USC § 103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the above remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance. Prompt examination and allowance are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desired in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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John K. Harrop
Registration No. 41,817
ANDREWS KURTH LLP
1701 Pennsylvania Ave, N.W.
Suite 300
Washington, DC 20006
Tel. (202) 662-2700
Fax (202) 662-2739